

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on January 28, 2008, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claim 1, and added claims 7 and 8. Claim 1 is the independent claim, and claims 1, 2 and 6-8 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's Action has rejected claims 1, 2 and 6 as being obvious over *Ahn* (USP 6,519,047) in view of *Jackson et al.* (USP 5,624,196) (hereafter simply *Jackson*). It is submitted that these claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a multi-functional peripheral that includes a recording media path, a scanning module on the recording media path, a printing module on the recording media path, and guiding means on the recording media path and on two sides of the printing module. Claim 1 has been amended to further describe that the guiding means includes at least two rollers between the printing module and the scanning module. These features reduce the size of the peripheral device and simplify the design. The claimed invention is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

Ahn is directed to a multifunctional machine that includes, *inter alia*, a printing unit 11, a scanning unit 16, a base frame 20, and rollers 22 (see *Ahn*,

Figures 1 and 4). The Examiner equates the rollers 22 disclosed by *Ahn* with the claimed two rollers.

However, none of *Ahn*'s rollers 22 are located between the printing unit 11 and the scanning unit 16, as would be required by amended claim 1. As shown in *Ann*'s Figure 4, the base frame 20 is located between *Ahn*'s rollers 22 (see col. 9, lines 14-15). Further, at the upper and lower part of *Ahn*'s base frame 20, the printing unit 11 and the scanning unit 16 are established, facing each other (see col. 5, lines 45-47, Figures 1 and 4). In other words, *Ahn*'s rollers 22 are located *beyond* both ends of the base frame 20, while the printing and scanning units 11 and 16 are disposed on the base frame 20 *between* both ends thereof. Thus, *Ahn*'s rollers 22 are not located between the printing unit 11 and the scanning unit 16.

Because *Jackson* does not overcome the above-noted deficiencies of *Ahn*, it is submitted that independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 6 that depend from claim 1, are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited references. It is requested that the rejections be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

New claims 7 and 8 are added. Because claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1, these claims are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1, as well as for additional features recited therein.

In addition, claim 7 further recites that the scanning module and the printing module are spaced apart from each other along the recording media path in a

direction to which the recording media moves, which is supported by original Figures 2 and 4. In contrast, *Ahn's* printing unit 11 and the scanning unit 16 face each other, with the base frame 20 being disposed in between. Thus, *Ahn's* units 11 and 16 are not spaced apart from each other along a moving direction of the recording media, as would be required by claim 7.

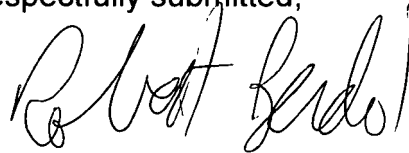
Further, claim 8 recites that the scanning module and the printing module face the same side of the recording media path (which is supported by original Figures 2 and 4), whereas, *Ahn's* printing unit 11 and the scanning unit 16 face each other, with the base frame 20 being disposed in between.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action, and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert H. Berdo, Jr. – Reg. No. 38,075
RABIN & BERDO, PC – Cust. No. 23995
Telephone: 202-371-8976
Fax: 202-408-0924

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RHB/JJ

AMENDMENT

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